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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/380,187	11/09/1999	RYOJI YAMAGUCHI	01489/P-1730	2304

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WENDEROTH LIND & PONACK
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WASHINGTON, DC 20006

EXAMINER

FLETCHER, JAMES A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

DATE MAILED: 08/13/2003

6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/380,187

Applicant(s)

YAMAGUCHI ET AL.

Examiner

James A. Fletcher

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1. 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boden (5,633,686).

Regarding claim 1, Boden discloses a coded signal reproduction apparatus comprising:

- matching status information output means for detecting the matching status of a code which is input for every predetermined bit with a prefix code of a packet start codes, and outputting matching status information of a head part of the packet start code (Col 8, lines 18-19 "Following the start code, the next two bytes received are the system data and system control bytes... If the 'more' bit in the control byte is set, the process repeats. Control data bytes continue to be received until the 'more' bit is equal to zero.""); and
- data format means for outputting predetermined data in accordance with the matching status information (Col 8, lines 20-23 "The system data byte is written to the decoder memory address pointed to by the system control byte").

Regarding claims 2 and 3, Boden discloses a coded signal reproduction apparatus wherein the matching status information output means includes:

- a head code detection unit for detecting the matching status of the head part of the packet start code at every predetermined bit from the input code sequence, and outputting matching information at the present point of time (Col 8, lines 18-24 “Following the start code, the next two bytes received are the system data and system control bytes. The system data byte is written to the decoder memory address pointed to by the system control byte after the checksum bits have been verified. If the ‘more’ bit in the control byte is set, the process repeats. Control data bytes continue to be received until the ‘more’ bit is equal to zero.”); and
- a matching status historical information hold unit for receiving the matching information at the present point of time, and holding historical information of the matching status of the head code (Col 8, lines 19-21 “The system data byte is written to the decoder memory address pointed to by the system control byte”); and
- start code discrimination means for discriminating the packet start code by using the historical information (Col 1, lines 66-67 “system control signals identifying the nature of the system data”) and a packet start code identifier existing in the later half part of the packet start code (Col 8, lines 12-13 “the decoder awaits reception of the thirty-two bit start code” and Col 8, lines 18 -

19 "Following the start code, the next two bytes received are the system data and system control bytes").

Regarding claim 4, Boden discloses a coded signal reproduction apparatus wherein the matching status information output means includes:

- a head code detection unit for detecting the matching status of the head part of the packet start code at every predetermined bit from the input code sequence, and outputting matching information at the present point of time (Col 8, lines 18-24 "Following the start code, the next two bytes received are the system data and system control bytes. The system data byte is written to the decoder memory address pointed to by the system control byte after the checksum bits have been verified. If the 'more' bit in the control byte is set, the process repeats. Control data bytes continue to be received until the 'more' bit is equal to zero.);and
- a matching status historical information hold unit for receiving the matching information at the present point of time, and holding historical information of the matching status of the head code (Col 8, lines 19-21 "The system data byte is written to the decoder memory address pointed to by the system control byte"); and
- a start code discrimination unit for discriminating a hierarchy start code of video data in accordance with the historical information (Col 7, lines 10-23 "the controller starts writing the video information to the memory array...until the maximum programmed address is reached... The write bank controller

selects the next bank of memory into which data is to be written”) and a video hierarchy identifier of coded video data which exists in a position corresponding to the latter half of the packet start code (Col 8, lines 12-13 “the decoder awaits reception of the thirty-two bit start code” and Col 8, lines 18 -19 “Following the start code, the next two bytes received are the system data and system control bytes”).

Regarding claim 5, Boden discloses a coded signal reproduction apparatus including header analysis means for analyzing the header of the packet to output reproduction information when the input code sequence is coded video data (Col 1, lines 63-66 “Each block of data...includes: ...system data representing video parameters and commands”);

- wherein the data format means inserts the reproduction information together with information indicating effectiveness of the reproduction information, in a predetermined position in the decoded video data (Col 8, lines 12-13 “the decoder awaits reception of the thirty-two bit start code” and Col 8, lines 18-19 “Following the start code, the next two bytes received are the system data and system control bytes” and Col 8, lines 25-26 “Immediately following the last control byte, video data words are received”).

Regarding claim 6, Boden discloses a coded signal apparatus wherein the header analysis means includes a header analysis unit for analyzing the header of the packet and outputting the reproduction information (Col 8, lines 25-26 “Immediately following the last control byte, video data words are received in multiples of sixteen

bits”), and a reproduction information hold unit for holding the reproduction information (Col 8, lines 26-28 “These words are written sequentially starting from address zero in the selected bank of the memory”).

Regarding claim 7, Boden discloses a coded signal reproduction apparatus wherein the header analysis means is activated when the start code is identified (Col 8, lines 15-16 “Once the start code has been received, the decoder is synchronized with the incoming data stream”).

Regarding claim 8, Boden discloses a coded signal reproduction apparatus comprising:

- end code sequence detection means for detecting, from code sequences of coded data, a code sequence indicating the end of the coded data (Col 7, lines 61-65 “Following each video data word transmission, a determination is made as to whether or not the end of the video data field has been reached...if so, the stop code is transmitted”); and
- formatter means for adding a predetermined number of pseudo data to the rear of the code sequence indicating the end of the coded data so that the data bus width of pipeline transfer including the end of the coded data becomes equal to the bus width of pipeline transfer including other data, when a code sequence indicating the end of the code data is detected by the end code sequence detection means (Col 7, lines 65-67 “the video image must be padded with binary ones if the length is an uneven multiple prior to serial transmission”).

Regarding claim 9, Boden discloses a coded signal reproduction apparatus further including specific code sequence inserting means for inserting a specific code sequence in the last packet in a packet sequence before decoding (Col 5, lines 5-8 "if a stop code has been transmitted but a new image portion is not ready for transmission, multiple alternations between binary one and binary zero are transmitted");

- wherein the formatter means adds a predetermined number of pseudo data to the rear of the specific code sequence (Col 5, lines 9-10 "at least one binary one and one binary zero must be transmitted").

Regarding claims 10-18, Boden discloses a coded signal reproduction apparatus wherein the input code sequence is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed (Col 4, lines 23-26 "The serial video data...is applied to a four channel multiplexer... along with output signals from a control shift register, a start code generator, and a stop code generator, all controlled by the microprocessor").

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Fletcher whose telephone number is (703) 305-3464. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:45AM - 5:45PM M-Th, first Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached at (703) 308-9644.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Application/Control Number: 09/380,187
Art Unit: 2615

Page 8

Washington, DC 20231


or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only).

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

JAF
August 6, 2003


VINCENT BOCCIO
PRIMARY EXAMINER